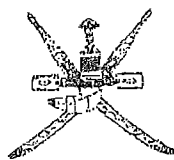


Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Commerce and Industry
Muscat



مكتب الوزير

Minister's Office

سلطنة عُمان
وزارة التجارة والصناعة
مسقط

mac: 1506

28 September 2005

The Honorable Robert Portman,
US Trade Representative
600 17th Street, NW
Washington DC 20508,
United States of America

Dear Ambassador Portman,

Please accept my congratulations on your recent appointment to serve as the US Trade Representative.

It has come to my attention that questions have arisen regarding Oman's participation in the Arab Boycott of Israel. I would like to assure you that Oman does not apply any aspect of the boycott, whether primary, secondary or tertiary or have any laws to that effect. Oman has no restriction whatsoever on U.S. companies trading with Oman or doing business with Oman, regardless of its ownership or relations with Israeli companies, and the Government is taking steps to ensure that all Ministries are aware of the situation and remove any boycott language that may unintentionally remain in their contracts.

As a Member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Oman did not invoke the non-application provisions of the WTO Agreement toward any other Member, and therefore has all WTO rights and obligations with respect to all Members.

Your sincerely,


Maqbool Bin Ali Sultan
Minister of Commerce and Industry